The Progressive Review

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March 1994

Crime rampage!

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Clinton, Congress run amok!

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Rash of drive-by legislation threatens parents, children, Constitution!

Washington is awash with bad ideas about how to deal with crime. Not since the depths of the Nixon administration has such a mindless spirit of retribution flourished.

Since LBJ's Safe Streets Act, Congress has approved some 19 "law and order" measures. In the past decade we have doubled the number of persons in our prisons. Prison construction is now America's major public housing program. Nearly a quarter of black men between 20 and 29 are in jail or on parole or probation. And still we are told we are not doing enough.

The current discovery of the crime crisis bears similarities to the discovery of a "drug crisis" in the mid-80s. Thanks to the symbiotic efforts of the Reagan administration and the media, the country within a matter of a few months leaped to the conclusion that it faced a new and fearsome drug scourge, despite the fact that drug use actually was in a long-term decline. We have been paying the price for this political scam ever since.

The Senate has now passed an appalling bad crime bill; Clinton -- while remaining vague on details -- has left no doubt that he also favors a heavy-handed approach, especially expanding the death penalty and life terms for three-time violent offenders.

Here are some of the measures the country is facing thanks to the White House and the Congress pandering to the crime hysteria:

- **Extension of the death penalty:** The Senate crime bill extends the death penalty to 50 additional crimes.
- **Extension of mandatory sentencing.** The Senate crime bill broadens the reach of mandatory sentencing. Not only are mandatory sentences ineffective in reducing crime, they are used in a racially discriminatory way and are an assault on the constitutional separation of powers. They replace judicial discretion with prosecutorial discretion. In other words, federal judges are told what sentences to impose but US Attorneys get to decided whether to bring the case in the first place.
- **Three strikes and you are out.** The number of truly violent offenders who would be covered by this is small. The *Washington* Post reported that in 1992 there were only 240 rape, murder, manslaughter, attempted murder and aggravated assault convictions in federal courts. Far greater, depending upon which version of the idea gets approved, is the number of those who are caught in the net because of fuzzy definitions of violent crimes that can include such offenses as stealing a government vehicle. Besides, most crime is committed by the young. Keeping older criminals in prison for life -- unless, for example, they are pathological killers or rapists -- does nothing to reduce crime and adds more than a half million dollars in costs for every prisoner so detained.
- **Boot camps.** The boot camp fad -- a favorite of macho politicians from Bill Clinton on down -- turns out to be just that. Initial studies of the camps find that those in them are no more rehabilitated than those involved in traditional penal programs. These camps are also an invitation to the sadistic treatment of young non-violent offenders.
- **New prisons.** The major source of prison overcrowding is draconian and pointless drug laws. According to former Attorney General Philip Heymann, 21% of all federal prisoners are low-level, non-violent drug offenders.
- **Federalizing state crimes:** The Senate crime bill forces mandatory minimum sentences for most state offenses committed with a gun. Aside from the invasion of states' rights, the Congressional Budget Office estimates that the provision would cost the federal government about $8 billion a year.

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Bucking the system since 1966

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- **Making kids adults:** According to an amendment successfully proposed by Sen. Carol Mosley-Braun, 13-year-olds would be prosecuted as adults if they are charged with certain federal offenses. Juveniles would also, for the first time, be subjected to lengthy mandatory minimum sentences.
- **Secret courts for aliens:** One amendment to the Senate crime bill, adopted without hearings, provides for secret courts and secret evidence in cases where the attorney general wants to deport an alien considered a national security risk. Aliens would not have the right to know either their accusers or even the evidence against them.
- **Gangs:** Under the bill it would be a federal crime for youths to belong to a "street gang" that engages in any criminal activity.
- **Parental prosecution:** This provision makes parents of a juvenile offender liable for punishment, including fines up to $10,000 or forced labor.
- **Aliens:** The Senate crime bill would deny federal benefits to lawful and currently eligible aliens, and would require schools and hospitals to report on the immigration status of students and patients.

■

As the Center for Constitutional Rights correctly notes, if this crime bill passes into law, "we will experience a rapid and frightening loss of constitutional rights."

There is also to be considered the self-defeating nature of our present approach to law and order, a point well made in a recent *Boston Globe* article:

> About a decade ago, when cities started evicting public housing tenants believed to be troublemakers, they began moving inevitably toward the idea that some of the poor -- the recalcitrant, noisy, sometimes drug-using fringe -- are less deserving than others.
>
> Now, with 'cause evictions' a staple of housing policy and slots for government job-training and education programs effectively limited to those more likely to succeed, a growing outclass is moving further and further from society's norms and values.
>
> Out of reach of the buffering hand of government programs, these outcasts usually enter the public consciousness only when brought before the criminal justice system, or if their children are somehow exposed as neglected or abused.

Thus does the endless cycle of ignore and incarcerate begin again.

Meanwhile in New Haven, Conn., police chief Nick Pastore -- using community policing and de-emphasizing small time drug busts -- has reduced crime in that city. Says Pastore: "Mean-spirited policing leads to mean streets." Is anyone listening?

■

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Operation Root Canal

With the backing of the Clinton administration, federal law enforcement agencies are pressing to have all electronic communications equipment purchased by the government contain a universal encoded chip that would allow the devices to be easily tapped. The idea is to use the government's purchasing power to make such chips the industry standard. Then, in effect, every domestic phone and computer in the country would be pre-tapped. The government could easily listen in on massive numbers of phone conversations and intercept e-mail, despite new technology that makes such eavesdropping more difficult.

There is much opposition to this pernicious plan -- called "Operation Root Canal" by the NSA and FBI -- from the computer community and from manufacturers, but Bill Clinton, who has yet to display any interest in civil liberties, is pushing ahead with the idea.

Interestingly, the plan was first proposed ten years ago by the then chief of NSA, Bobby Ray Inman, who also argued that scientists should be prohibited from writing *any* article about cryptology without the approval of the government.

Some feel the project may collapse, not only because of mounting opposition, but because foreign businesses and governments would not wish to buy equipment so easily tapped by the US government, and because American citizens could get around the pre-tapped devices by buying foreign ones.

Mediflop

• Writing in the *New York Times,* Susan Gorden points out that in California, HMOs are requiring women with normal deliveries to be out of the hospital within 12 to 24 hours of giving birth. The Harvard Community Health Plan is also sending mothers home after 24 hours and has eliminated the services of a home health aide. This is the sort of drive-thru health service that can be expected to become standard under the Clinton health plan.

• Ms. Clinton, who thinks HMOs and managed care are just great, still gets away with faux populist attacks on the healthcare industry even as she flacks its cause. For example, at a February speech, where she urged HMOs to join the TV healthcare ad wars on behalf of the president's program, Ms. Clinton was introduced by Samuel Havens, senior vice president of Prudential Insurance Company. Prudential would be a major part of the healthcare oligopoly that would result from the Clinton plan,

• The Clinton health plan will create a whole new class of criminal -- ranging from individuals who fail to pay their premiums (that's a fine of $5000 or three times the amount owed, whichever is greater), to physicians who threaten or engage in a boycott of a state-run plan. And then there are those doctors who fail to provide proper data on "clinical encounters" (or in the form required) to the Quality Management Council. They can be fined up to $10,000 for each violation.

• The president got plenty of media coverage in February when he went to New Jersey and told a group of senior citizens that his plan was the only one that "offers any help for long-term healthcare and for prescription drugs." Only problem was that Clinton did not tell the truth; the single-payer system offers such help as well. Clinton later said his comment was "inadvertent."

Policy Wonks in Action

We were thinking of a slogan, what our bumper sticker would be about the message that we feel about Russia. I think our slogan would be: There needs to be more reform and more social service support -- more attempts to build a safety net, to deal with consequences of reform. But not an attempt to slow down the reform effort. More reform, more support. Or you could say, More reform, more therapy. -- *Bill Clinton attempting to outline his policy towards Russia is an interview with journalists.*

Good news

The University of Pennsylvania has decided to return to the Constitution for guidance on how questions of free speech should be handled. The new rules, says a university representative, are "essentially what the First Amendment says. The rules inside the campus cannot be different from those outside."

Whitewater ripples

• Dr. Cyril Wecht, a pathologist at the University of Pennsylvania, says that it is possible for a self-inflicted gunshot to cause a reflexive grasping of a gun, but not in the rearrangement that seems to have occurred in the case of Vincent Foster. Wecht says the reflex would also not account for Foster's arm being parallel to his body, "laid out like for a casket," in the words of an EMT on the scene. Other inconsistencies abound. For example, Clinton aides maintain that Foster's suicide note was found in his attaché case some days after his death, but a police officer who looked into the case right after the suicide, says there was no such note in it. Who was the man who told a park maintenance worker to call 911 and report a body? The man has disappeared. Why did White House aides obstruct

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> I'm not like you guys in the media laying around in some swanky hotel in Little Rock. I'm out here on the farm wading in the mud, and I don't feel like I have to tell anybody anything. Besides, I'm a politician, and as a politician I have the prerogative to lie whenever I want -- *Charles Peacock, when asked by the* Washington Times *why he had changed his story about a contribution to the Clinton campaign in 1984.*

FBI agents attempting to examine Foster's office? Why does the White House claim its search of Foster's office took only a few minutes while police observers, blocked from entering during the interim, say it took a couple of hours?

- CBS reports that the Rose Law Firm has sent a letter to a potential client saying that it had "developed relationships with officials who are now in the Clinton administration."
- You may remember that Hillary Clinton thrilled all right-thinking Americans during the campaign by saying, "I suppose I could have stayed home and baked cookies and had teas. But what I decided to do was pursue my profession, which I entered before my husband was in public life." Forgotten, however, is what inspired this homily: accusations that Ms. Clinton had represented Whitewater business partner Jim McDougal's S&L before her husband's government.

Here's what the *New York Times* reported on March 17, 1992:

> Hillary Clinton said today that she did not earn "a penny" from state business conducted by her Little Rock law firm and that she never intervened with state regulators on behalf of a failed Arkansas savings and loan association. . .
>
> Mrs. Clinton said today that she had done legal work for Madison Guaranty but that it was not related to the S&Ls dealing with state regulators.
>
> "For goodness sake," she said. "You can't be a lawyer if you don't represent banks."

- Part of the White House Whitewater spin is that there should not be concurrent congressional hearings during the special prosecutor's investigation. But Jake Lewis, formerly on the staff of the House Banking Committee and supervisor of several S&L investigations, wrote the *Washington Post* to point out that:

> In my 27 years at the [committee], I do not recall a single major oversight effort that was not conducted concurrently with other or potential civil and criminal investigations and prosecutions.
>
> When Congress fails to take up oversight while issues are fresh, it loses the opportunity to mobilize public opinion behind reforms and, perhaps more important, to reassure the public that its government is willing to lay out the facts in public forums even when high officials may be pained. Special counsels, accountable to no one and operating behind closed doors at their own pace, are poor substitutes for the role that the Constitution gives Congress.

- The *Wall Street Journal* has reported that two employees of the Madison S&L were told by superiors that if they donated to Bill Clinton's 1985 fundraiser they would be reimbursed. One of the employees rejected the idea; the other declined to reveal who had reimbursed him: "It could be incriminating."

Sleazy supermarket stuff

A few readers have expressed distress at our reportage of President Clinton's sexual activities. Your editor has been seized neither by a fit of priggishness nor any noticeable surge in his preexisting taste for the salacious. It is simply that Clinton's behavior has been noteworthy in its obsession, recklessness, bad judgment, tawdriness, arrogance and excess, not to mention its abuse of government funds and employees. It is surely not unreasonable to argue that a governor should avoid using state troopers to procure the sexual services of other state employees, or to express some concern when it is alleged, as noted below, that a woman was threatened with injury should she reveal details of her affair with the governor. If it does seem unreasonable, then perhaps we all owe an apology to Justice Thomas and the Senate should drop its proceedings against Senator Packwood forthwith. After all, Packwood did his groping without the aid of armed state cops.

So here's this month's roundup of news from our sleazy supermarket tabloid presidency. Those likely to be offended should put on their green glasses and move promptly to the next section :

- A 27-year-old Arkansas woman has accused President Clinton of sexually harassing her while he was governor. The woman, Paula Jones, was a state employee at the time, working for the Arkansas Industrial Development Commission. The White House denied the accusation and said Mr. Clinton does not recall having met the woman. According to Ms. Jones, she was approached by a state trooper who said the governor wanted to see her in his hotel room. While there, Clinton asked to engage in a sexual act. She declined.
- London's *Sunday Telegraph* has reported that Sally Perdue, a former Miss Arkansas living in St. Louis (where she works with adults who have Downs syndrome), says that state troopers often dropped Clinton off at her place in his jogging gear. Said Perdue: "He saw my Steinway grand piano and went straight over to it and asked me to play. " He later took to bringing his sax and they would play '50s rock numbers together. Their musical interests led to sex and, according to Perdue, "he had this little boy quality I found very attractive." The relationship lasted about four months.

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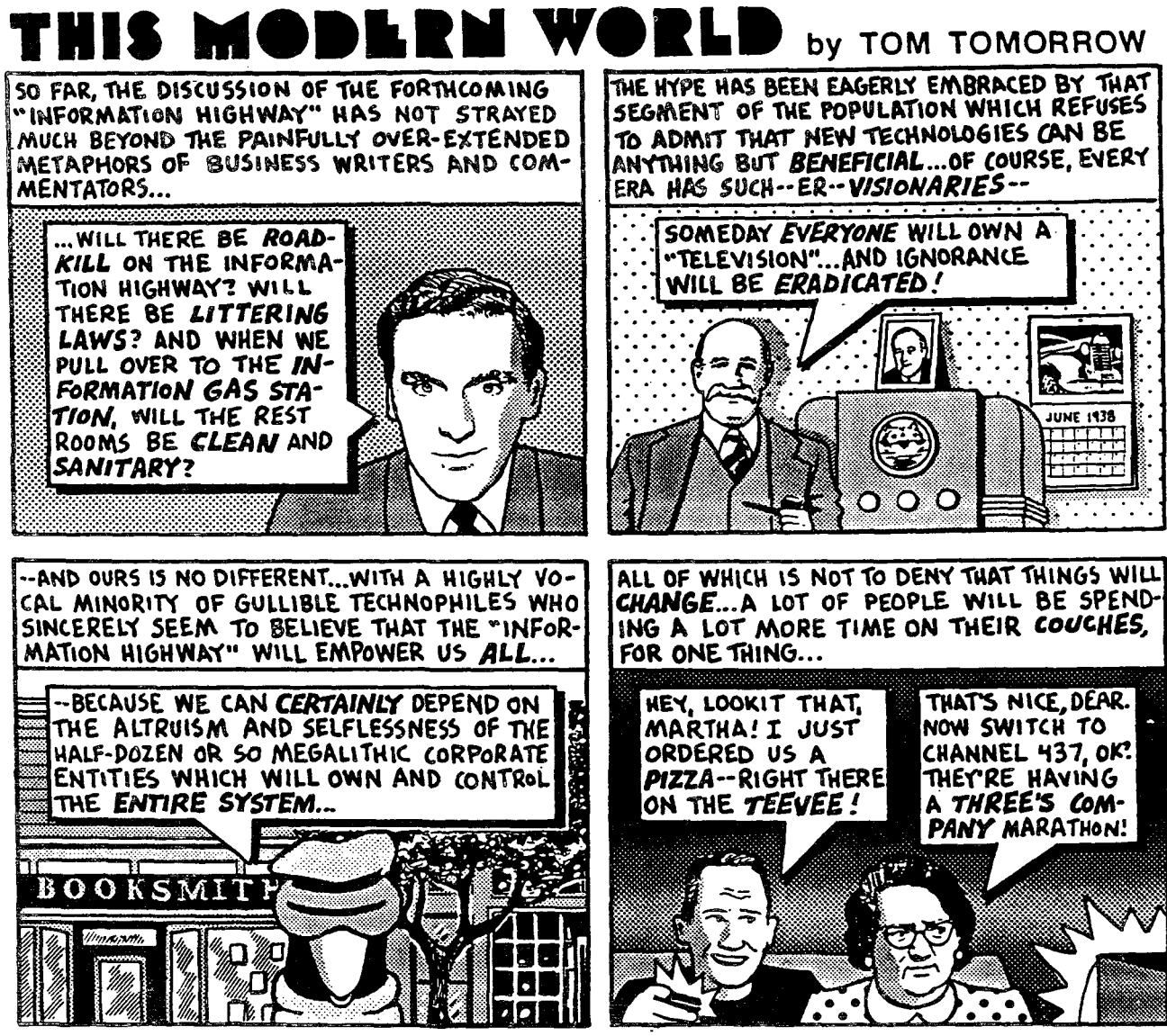
THIS MODERN WORLD by TOM TOMORROW
SO FAR, THE DISCUSSION OF THE FORTHCOMING "INFORMATION HIGHWAY" HAS NOT STRAYED MUCH BEYOND THE PAINFULLY OVER-EXTENDED METAPHORS OF BUSINESS WRITERS AND COMMENTATORS...
...WILL THERE BE ROAD-KILL ON THE INFORMATION HIGHWAY? WILL THERE BE LITTERING LAWS? AND WHEN WE PULL OVER TO THE INFORMATION GAS STATION, WILL THE REST ROOMS BE CLEAN AND SANITARY?
THE HYPE HAS BEEN EAGERLY EMBRACED BY THAT SEGMENT OF THE POPULATION WHICH REFUSES TO ADMIT THAT NEW TECHNOLOGIES CAN BE ANYTHING BUT BENEFICIAL...OF COURSE, EVERY ERA HAS SUCH--ER--VISIONARIES--
SOMEDAY EVERYONE WILL OWN A "TELEVISION"...AND IGNORANCE WILL BE ERADICATED!
JUNE 1938
--AND OURS IS NO DIFFERENT...WITH A HIGHLY VOCAL MINORITY OF GULLIBLE TECHNOPHILES WHO SINCERELY SEEM TO BELIEVE THAT THE "INFORMATION HIGHWAY" WILL EMPOWER US ALL...
--BECAUSE WE CAN CERTAINLY DEPEND ON THE ALTRUISM AND SELFLESSNESS OF THE HALF-DOZEN OR SO MEGALITHIC CORPORATE ENTITIES WHICH WILL OWN AND CONTROL THE ENTIRE SYSTEM...
BOOKSMITH
ALL OF WHICH IS NOT TO DENY THAT THINGS WILL CHANGE...A LOT OF PEOPLE WILL BE SPENDING A LOT MORE TIME ON THEIR COUCHES, FOR ONE THING...
HEY, LOOKIT THAT, MARTHA! I JUST ORDERED US A PIZZA--RIGHT THERE ON THE TEEVEE!
THAT'S NICE, DEAR. NOW SWITCH TO CHANNEL 437, OK? THEY'RE HAVING A THREE'S COMPANY MARATHON!
TOM TOMORROW 11-16-93

Purdue had revealed the relationship, but not the details, when she appeared on the Sally Jesse Raphael TV show during the campaign. She was subsequently visited, she says, by a man who described himself as a "Democratic Party operative" who warned her not to reveal specifics of the affair:

> He said there were people in high places who were anxious about me and they wanted me to know that keeping my mouth shut would be worthwhile. . . If I was a good little girl, and didn't kill the messenger; I'd be set for life: a federal job, nothing fancy but a regular paycheck. . . I'd never have to worry again.
>
> But if I didn't take the offer, then they knew that I went jogging by myself and he couldn't guarantee what would happen to my 'pretty little legs.'

Perdue said she found a shotgun cartridge on the driver's seat of her Jeep and later had her back window shattered. Said the "operative" to the *Telegraph*: "That woman is childish. You people are foolish. I don't know a thing about the Clinton thing."

Said Purdue of Clinton:

> When I see him now, president of the United States, meeting world leaders, I can't believe it. . . I still have this picture of him wearing my black nightgown, playing the sax badly. . . this guy tiptoeing across the park and getting caught on the fence. How do you expect me to take him seriously?

• Finally, Bill Clinton on the subject of sex to a group of Southeast Washington high school students: "This is not a sport, this is a solemn responsibility." He told the young men at the gathering that they should stop having sex "when they're not prepared to marry the others, they're not prepared to take responsibility for the children and they're not even able to take responsibility for themselves."

Just politics

• Alexander Cockburn in the *Nation* reports that Paul Wellstone voted to continue funding of the National Endowment for Democracy, opposed the lifting of the

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Sweet Land of Liberty

- Pilots, truckers, bus drivers, train engineers will be subjected to random alcohol and drug tests under new federal regulations. There will, however, be no tests for anxiety, too much caffeine, insomnia, angst over a pending divorce, or hundreds of other factors that can similarly affect performance.
- The Philadelphia police have started searching and handcuffing truants before taking them to truancy centers.

Vietnam embargo, and supported the Senate crime bill. Says Cockburn: "This is the Senate's cutting edge liberal."

- The new mayor of Rome, Franseco Rutelli, is a Green -- and the most politically successful one to date. Rutelli finished first in the initial round of voting; in the second round he got 53%. Rutelli is a former leader of the Greens in the Italian parliament and a former environmental minister who resigned to protest the government's political corruption.
- According to the *Perot Periodical,* ol' Ross is recruiting the paid leadership of United We Stand from the military. A third of UWSA had military backgrounds and one officer told *PP* that Perot had requested resumes from 300 colonels at the Army War College.

Foreign affairs

While Clinton and Yeltsin tussled for credit in bringing calm to Sarajevo, the American media once again largely missed the point, which is that the only real skill we bring to peace-making is our ability to strafe the recalcitrant. If our military facility had been as primitive as our present capability to deal non-violently with international stresses, we would have gone through the entire Cold War with only the equivalent of the Arkansas National Guard.

The media, far from suggesting any deficiency here, had its usual orgasm over the possibility that once again we might have a moral reason to bomb someone. In fact, Clinton, the Russians and NATO blew this whole business and the only real heroes, the humanitarian aid workers and the blue helmets, got but a pittance of the credit they deserved. Thus, not only did we do badly, we apparently haven't learned much in the process.

Drug busts

- Colorado activists are going to try again to get a hemp relegalization amendment on the state ballot. They collected 56,000 signatures for such an effort in 1992 but the state invalidated enough of them to keep the question off the ballot. Proponents point out that until the end of the 19th century, hemp was the source of more than three-quarters of the paper in the world. One acre of hemp can produce as much paper as four acres of trees according to USDA studies. In this country, hemp was the largest fiber crop until 1840. Hemp is also an excellent protein source for food and livestock.
- The *Boston Globe* reports that American troops have constructed what many Colombians believe is a secret base for gathering intelligence and staging raids in the Cali area of the country -- headquarters of the world's cocaine trade. The US and Colombian officials maintain the troops are just there to build schools and roads.
- According to a London *Sunday Times* article ignored in this country, British and American drug enforcement officials allowed up to $1.5 billion worth of cocaine into the United Kingdom "in a bungled operation to trap a Colombian drugs cartel." The paper reported that CIA and British police officers who monitored the shipments allowed the drugs in because they hoped for valuable intelligence on senior figures in the cartel. The effort collapsed because British customs, not informed of the plan, arrested the key informant who was trying to bring in about $300 million worth of the drug. Meanwhile, the CIA was involved in a similar, although smaller, operation to bring in cocaine from Venezuela to the US, a project now being investigated by the Justice Department. Aside from the question of whether the CIA should function as a major drug importer, such stings present an unusual opportunity for terrorists. A drug informant cleared through customs without the normal search might just as easily being carrying a bomb as hauling cocaine.

The mediacracy

- Rick Kaplan, the new producer of ABC's *World News Tonight,* directly advised and helped Bill Clinton during the Democratic primaries, according to *Spy* magazine. Said *Spy*: "Kaplan's involvement with the Clinton campaign began as early as [the summer of 1991] when he attended campaign staff meetings and boasted to a member of the Democratic National Committee about how he helped set up Clinton's press office."
- The months will be longer now that the aforementioned *Spy* is going out of business. The sainted *Spy* helped mightily to make the '80s tolerable but was unable to survive the smug '90s. One of *Spy*'s last treats followed George Steinbrenner's indication that he might move the New York Yankees out of town. A *Spy* writer called up several neighboring jurisdictions posing as a Yankee special consultant and asked what they'd do to get

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the team. Said Newark mayor James Sharpe: "We would roll over more than any anyone else. . . You could be the future, you know what I'm saying? It could be Disney World."

Asked how much money he'd throw into the deal, Sharpe said, "Whatever it takes. I'm wedded to doing the idea. I only got one term left before I go fishing."

As he warmed up to the subject, he began screaming, "You got to go where there's virgin land waiting for you! And build a Taj Mahal! Camden Yards! We're going to be better than Camden Yards."

• Here is some objective journalism from Associated Press:

> Look out listeners: The man known as Governor Moonbeam is now riding the radio waves. Former California governor and failed presidential candidate Jerry Brown launched his syndicated radio talk show, "We the People with Jerry Brown," on Monday. A liberal Democrat once called 'Governor Moonbeam' for his sometimes far-out opinions, Brown says his show will focus on how 'people are getting ripped off.'

In fact, Brown got the nickname for proposing to link far-flung state offices by satellite communications long before anyone knew what an information highway was.

Furthermore. . .

• Bobby Ray Inman, former defense secretary nominee; Bill Perry, present defense secretary; and John Deutsh, a top Pentagon official, all served on the board of the Bush-cozy SAIC Corporation at a time when SAIC ran afoul of federal law, pled guilty to ten counts of fraud in connection with federal contracts and paid a fine of $1.3 million. In an attempt to get the Justice Department off SAIC's back, board member and former defense secretary Melvin Laird wrote a personal letter to Attorney General Richard Thornburgh citing the presence on the board of Inman, Perry and Deutsh as evidence that "we have very distinguished, hard-working group of board members who are interested in continuing to make this employee-owned corporation the great national success that it is."

After pressure from a few senators and exposé of SAIC actions by the Project on Government Oversight, Justice proceeded with the indictment despite the Laird letter.

• The *Review*'s 1990 story on the S&L bailout scandal has been listed by *Utne Reader* as one of the top ten censored stories of the past decade. *UT* is celebrating its own tenth anniversary as America's leading journalistic guide to the new, the challenging, and the different.

• Is Justice blind? The Justice Department may be tough on crime, but under Janet Reno it seems to have spent much of its first year exonerating people. Among those cleared by Justice: The federal officials involved in the Waco massacre, the Clinton officials who searched Bush personnel records, the Bush administration in the BNL scandal and Commerce Secretary Ron Brown.

• According to a form letter sent to former grant applicants, the J. Roderick MacArthur Foundation is no longer interested in hearing from them. The foundation has decided to concentrate on three projects, the MacArthur Justice Foundation, the Death Penalty Information Center and Article 19 in London. A letter, written by foundation counsel David Bradford, states:

> Additional grants will be made at the sole discretion of the Board of Directors. The Foundation receives well over 1200 grant applications annually and spends significant resources culling through them and corresponding with applicants and potential applicants. The Board believes it can determine which additional grants to make without expending these significant charitable funds and without imposing the costs of the application process upon the potential donees. . . Accordingly, any future grant applications will not be accepted and cannot be returned.
>
> Consistent with this approach and in order to maximize the amount of dollars which can be utilized for charitable as opposed to administrative purposes, the Foundation will not be hiring a new President or Executive Director. It will reduce its entire staff to one person. . . As a result, no staff will be available either to communicate with potential donees or discuss potential grants. For similar reasons, no Foundation staff member will be available to discuss this change in policy. Given my other obligations, I am not available to do so either. The Board apologizes for any inconvenience that this policy may cause. . .

• One of the few Jews who has actually sat down and talked to Louis Farrakhan is Rabbi Robert J. Marx of Glencoe, Ill. According to the *Washington Post*, Marx, who is part of a black-Jewish dialogue group in the Chicago area, has dined privately with Farrakhan three times. He believes Farrakhan and the ADL have a "symbiotic relationship." Says Marx:

> He talks about 'the Jew.' Similarly, there are Jews who talk about 'the black.' If Mr. Farrakhan says something anti-Semitic, the ADL prints it, and Mr.

Role Models

In Arkansas lore, governors have always been cut a little slack, such as the governor in the '30s who wrote fire and theft insurance on every concrete and steel bridge in the state highway system and the governor in the '50s who, about to be indicted for stealing money from the state highway fund, got his chief of staff to arrange to replace a certain judge with the town drunk, who then dismissed the grand jury that was about to indict the governor." -- *Wesley Pruden, Washington Times*

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Farrakhan gets huge sums of money for speaking at college campuses. . . The ADL then reprints his speech and raises hundreds of thousands in revenue from its attack on Mr. Farrakhan.

ROADSIGNS

Foreign

Military spending by the US: $298 billion a year

Military spending by North Korea: $5 billion a year.

First country to introduce nuclear weapons to the Korean peninsula: US

Years US has targeted North Korea with nuclear weapons: 36

Years North Korea has targeted US with nuclear weapons: 0

Approximate number of US nuclear weapons: 20,000

Approximate number of North Korean nuclear weapons: 0

Media

Average number of self-references per column by Richard Cohen, 1992-93: 13

Average number of self-references per column by Ellen Gooman, 1992-93: 4

Average number of self-references per column by Mary M<Grory, 1992-93: less than 1

Sources

Foreign: Center for Defense Information. **Justice:** *The Nation, Youth Today.* **Media:** David Corn and Patrick Bryant in *The Nation*

Among the hirings announced by David Wilhelm, [Democratic Party] chairman, were Robert L. Watson as deputy executive director. In 1992, Mr. Watson pleaded guilty to conspiracy and was fined $10,000 for his role in disclosing a tape of an illegally recorded phone conversation involving then-Governor Douglas Wilder of Virginia. -- *Associated Press*

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